(b) Government is not involved in the writing of the History textbooks. NCERT is an autonomous and expert body which is writing the textbooks, including History textbooks.

Relaxation in tutorial attendance

3214. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether NCERT and NCTE do not have a uniform policy for relaxation of tutorial attendance for students, studying in correspondence courses in D.Ed, in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the reasons that relaxation has been given in some districts but not in Devas district; and

(d) by when the relaxation is likely to be extended to students of Devas district and a uniform policy is adopted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) The Western Regional Committee of the National Council forTeacher Education (NCTE), which is the Statutory body to regulate teacher education throughout the country, has granted recognition to D. Ed. (correspondence course) run by Board of Secondary Education, Bhopal. However, the Council has not granted any relaxation in regard to attendance in the contact programme (tutorial attendance).

Sections in KV classes

3215. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the Kendriya Vidyalayas in Delhi have only three sections in each class now;

(b) if so, the details of section-strength of each class in each Kendriya Vidyalaya in each of the three preceding academic sessions; and

(c) what has been the fate of students of sections, abolished during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Wherever some sections have been abolished in some of the schools, the students have been adjusted in the existing classes in the same schools/neighbouring schools.

Strike by DU teachers

†3216. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi University teachers had observed a strike in September, 2002, in protest against the UGC instructions;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the strike;

(c) whether the future of students is being jeopardized, due to the politics on account of the demands of teachers and the decisions of the UGC; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to end the dead lock, keeping in view the future of the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) had observed one week's strike in September, 2002 in protest against the decisions of the University Grants Commission (UGC) to impose ban on filling up of all vacant posts in the University and its colleges and to increase workload of teachers as per UGC norms.

(c) and (d)The University has informed that the UGC has since clarified that the ban on filling of vacant posts is not applicable to teaching posts. As regards the issue of increase in workload of teachers, a High Powered Committee on Accountability and Academic Reforms, constituted by the University to make recommendations about streamlining the teaching

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.